

1.14	Family-to-Family Networks	Page 1 of 2
Authorizing Utah Code: 62a-5-103	Rule: None	Division Staff
Issue date: 4/00	Revision date: 8/04	
Form(s): None	Contract: Family-to-Family Contract, effective 7/1/04	

State, **Region** and Local Family Networks will be organized and maintained to advise and assist the state in educating, strengthening, and supporting families of persons with disabilities.

PROCEDURES

1. State Family Network representatives shall include:
 - A. three representatives from each **Region**, one of which must be the **Region** Network chair, who are family members of a **Person** with a disability and are chosen by the **Region** Networks in their respective **Regions**, with each **Region** allowed 3 voting rights;
 - B. one **Division** Board Member, appointed by the Board to serve in an advisory capacity; and
 - C. one **Division** staff representative, to be selected by the Division's **Director**, to serve in a support capacity.
2. The State Family-to-Family Network shall elect one representative to serve as the chair. The chair will conduct meetings, which will be held as needed, but no less than quarterly. Elections for the chair will be conducted yearly in January. The chair will be the deciding vote in case of tied voting. Other officers and/or committees may be appointed as needed.
3. State Family-to-Family Network activities are intended to be strategic in purpose. They may include, but are not limited to:
 - A. serving as an advocate for Family Network issues on a statewide basis;
 - B. providing information, education and assistance to Local and **Region** Networks;
 - C. assisting the **Division** with evaluating its services and/or other projects;
 - D. encouraging collaboration among groups and agencies with similar interests;
 - E. promoting the family's role in the interdependence among state agencies, Local and **Region** Networks, provider and advocacy organizations and with other families;
 - F. sharing information on Local and **Region** Network activities;
 - G. coordinating and administering programs and funding consistent with the above.
4. Region Family Network members will determine who will have voting rights, and shall include:
 - A. chairs and/or representatives from each Local Network within that **Region** that are family members of **Persons** with a disability;
 - B. a chair, who will conduct council meetings, and other officers who must be family members of a **Person** eligible for **Division** services, and are elected annually by the **Region** Network; and
 - C. **Division** staff, who will serve in a support capacity.
5. **Region** Network activities may vary from **Region** to **Region**, but will remain consistent with the following purposes and efforts:
 - A. providing information, education and assistance to Local Networks;

- B. promoting the family's role in the interdependence among regional agencies, Local Networks and families;
 - C. encouraging collaboration among groups and agencies with similar interests;
 - D. serving as an advocate for Family Network issues on a regional basis and to the State Family-to-Family Network;
 - E. sharing information on local activities;
 - F. assisting the regional **Division** with evaluating its services and/or other projects.
6. Local Family Network members will determine who will have voting rights and full or partial access to their meetings. The Local Networks shall include:
- A. Interested family members of **Persons** with disabilities within the Network's coverage area or community;
 - B. a chair, who will conduct council meetings, and who must be family member of a **Person** eligible for **Division** services; and other officers, the majority of whom are family members of persons with disabilities; elected annually by each Local Network; and
 - C. **Division** staff, who will serve in a support capacity.
7. Local Network activities may vary in each location of the state, but will remain consistent with the following purposes and efforts:
- A. providing information and educating its members;
 - B. promoting the family's role in directing the supports received so that supports are family driven;
 - C. identifying and offering support to families, and developing family-to-family networks for families of children with disabilities in the local community;
 - D. provide input to, and work with Region and State Family Networks;
 - E. encouraging collaboration among agencies, professionals and families;
 - F. co-sponsoring workshops and seminars;
 - G. developing ways to maximize the use of existing resources.